



A LEADERSHIP PROGRAM FOR 4-H YOUTH DEVELOPMENT PROFESSIONALS

Introduction

Choosing to Lead is one of the program offerings within the national Current and Emerging Leadership Initiative in 4-H. Other programs within the Current and Emerging 4-H Leadership initiative include: the *Art of Leadership Series* and *New State Program Leader Orientation*. The purpose of the “Current and Emerging 4-H Leadership” development plan is to accelerate the development of current leaders and prepare emerging leaders by engaging them in concentrated learning experiences to bring strength and vision to 4-H youth development in the future. The first *Choosing to Lead* program will be held at the 2005 NAE4-HA National Meeting in Seattle, WA. The conference-within-a-conference format will include assessment and feedback, reflection upon personal values, and how it affects leadership styles and professional development.

Current and Emerging Leadership Outcomes. . .

- Participants will demonstrate operational and strategic leadership concepts and skills to 4-H
- Participants can expect to enhance their network of colleagues within the 4-H system
- Teams will be formed that reflect cohesiveness, trust and continuity
- Leadership will be visible through organizational transformation in 4-H

Choosing to Lead Program

Purpose: To prepare individuals or teams to become effective leaders, take on greater leadership responsibility and fulfill key leadership roles in 4-H.

Target Audience: Prospective, emerging and aspiring leaders or teams of leaders currently in the 4-H system.

Description: You are the future of the 4-H organization. Can you handle it? In today’s world, the leaders in the 4-H youth development program must be knowledgeable about positive youth development, manage a portfolio of programs and activities, and cope with demands of funding, people-management, communication and pressures from both the external and internal environment. The session will help you identify what you need to become an effective leader or team member in key leadership roles in 4-H. You will also utilize assessment tools and participate in small group activities to learn and reflect upon your personal values and how it affects your leadership. We want you to be well prepared for your leadership role and continue to have a bright professional future in 4-H.

You will leave the program with:

- A better understanding of the big picture of 4-H and opportunities for professional growth
- Insights into your leadership and management style and plans for development
- A network of professional colleagues across the United States

Dates and location: Held annually in conjunction with the NAE4-HA national conference beginning at the NAE4-HA conference in Seattle, October 30 – November 4, 2005. In 2005, the session is scheduled to begin Sunday, October 30.

Program Length: 2 days: 1 day pre-conference with “Choosing to Lead” sessions designated throughout the planned NAE4-HA conference seminar schedule.

Eligibility

Individuals and teams are encouraged to participate. To be eligible, participants must:

- Work in 4-H at least 50% of their time;
- Be employed by their 4-H organization for at least two years at the time of nomination; and
- Have a minimum of 3-5 years of overall Extension System experience.

Nomination Procedures

1. Nominations may be made by any employee working in 4-H at least 50% of their time and must be approved by the state 4-H program leader or designated administrator.
2. Nominations must consist of a completed nomination form (attached) and a justification of no more than two pages. The justification must clearly and sufficiently address the selection criteria. Letters or e-mails of recommendation, work samples or other supporting documents, will **not** be accepted. Nominations will be evaluated on accomplishments, potential leadership, and/or impact within 4-H.
3. Nominations must be e-mailed to National 4-H Headquarters at the address below **no later than August 1, 2005**. Although individuals may nominate themselves, nominations **must be e-mailed directly from the nominee's state 4-H program leader or designated administrator**. This method will serve as an electronic signature approving the nomination. **Nominations not submitted by a state 4-H program leader or administrator will not be considered.**

Please e-mail your nomination to Barbara Stone, National 4-H Headquarters, at bstone@csrees.usda.gov. Use the subject line: **CTL Nomination**.

4. All individuals will receive an e-mail notification that their nomination was received. In the first year (2005), a limit of 50 individuals will be able to participate. If more than 50 nominations are received, a selection procedure (see below) will be implemented.

Selection Procedures

If more than 50 nominations are received (participation is limited to 50 in 2005), the planning committee will evaluate the nominations. All individuals will be notified of their selection through an e-mail message.

Program Registration Fee

The registration fee for *Choosing to Lead* is \$100 per participant. The program is subsidized by the Current and Emerging 4-H Leadership initiative supported by the National 4-H Leadership Trust. Upon notification of selection, make payments to National 4-H Council as described on the Nomination Form.

Recognition

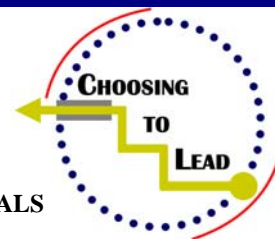
Participants of the Choosing to Lead Program will be recognized during the NAE4-HA conference and receive a form of recognition to acknowledge their completion of the program.

Program Administration and Staffing

The Choosing to Lead program is a partnership between National 4-H Headquarters and NAE4-HA, specifically the NAE4-HA Organizational Stewardship Committee. Following the *Choosing to Lead* program, 2-3 participants will be nominated to serve on the planning committee for the coming year.

For more information contact: Barbara Stone, National Program Leader, National 4-H Headquarters at bstone@csrees.usda.gov.





CHOOSING TO LEAD NOMINATION

A LEADERSHIP SESSION FOR 4-H YOUTH DEVELOPMENT PROFESSIONALS

Check One: Individual Nomination Member of a Team Nomination

Nominee Information:

NAME OF NOMINEE: _____
ADDRESS OF NOMINEE: _____
CITY _____ STATE _____ ZIP _____
PHONE _____ FAX _____ EMAIL _____

Indicate Extension Region:

North East North Central South West

NAME OF TEAM (if applicable) _____

Current Position/Role _____

Nominator Information (self-nominations permitted)

NAME OF NOMINATOR _____
ADDRESS OF NOMINATOR _____
CITY _____ STATE _____ ZIP _____
PHONE _____ FAX _____ EMAIL _____

Justification for Participation: (Limited to 2 Pages, double-spaced attached to this nomination form.)

The nominee should clearly and sufficiently describe their potential for taking greater responsibility, contributing to a team or fulfilling key leadership roles in the future. Any accomplishment and the impact of the accomplishment may also be included. Letters or e-mails of recommendation, work samples or other supporting documents, will not be accepted.)

State 4-H Program Leader Approval: All nominations must be e-mailed directly from the State 4-H Program Leader. This method will serve as an electronic signature approving the nomination.

Registration Fee: **\$100.00 -please send payment upon notification of acceptance into the program to:** National 4-H Council, Attn: Jennifer Zaniewski
7100 Connecticut Avenue, Chevy Chase, MD 20815.

Payment options:

Check Please make check payable to **National 4-H Council** (with "Choosing to Lead" in the memo line) and mail to the payment address above.

Credit Card Please complete the information below and mail a copy of this form *with* an original cardholder signature to the payment address above.

Visa MasterCard American Express

Amount to be charged: \$ _____

Cardholder Name _____ Card Number _____

Signature _____ Expiration Date _____